



Vinorelbine (Navelbine®)

At the Clinical Center referred to as Navelbine® (Na-vel-been).

How Given: Intravenously (by vein)

Drug Action: Navelbine® prevents cancer cells from dividing by affecting the tiny rods that form the cell's skeleton.

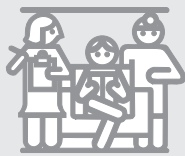
- Side Effects:**
1. Bone marrow effects can include a temporary decrease in white blood cells and red blood cells. White blood cells usually decrease 7 days after treatment and recover by 17 days.
 2. The nervous system can be affected. Symptoms include
 - constipation
 - pain, numbness and tingling, or a “pins and needles” sensation that begin in the fingers and toes
 - difficulty walking
 - difficulty with fine motor movements such as buttoning clothes
 - jaw pain

These symptoms can resolve over an extended period of time after the drug is stopped.

3. Mild nausea and vomiting can occur.
4. Generalized weakness can occur.

**Special
Instructions:**

1. Tell your nurse immediately if the drug stings or burns during treatment. If the drug leaks out of the vein, it can damage tissue. Prompt treatment is essential in order to minimize the damage.
2. Report “pins and needles” sensations to your NIH doctor. Be careful when handling sharp objects. Avoid extremes of hot and cold.
3. Call your NIH doctor or nurse if you
 - have pain, discomfort, or redness at the injection site following treatment
 - have not had a bowel movement in 2 days. Discuss constipation prevention measures such as stool softeners or laxatives
 - are unable to drink for more than 1 day or unable to eat for more than 2 days after treatment
 - have a temperature of 101.0 °F (38.3 °C) at any time, or have a temperature of at least 100.4 °F (38.0 °C) that lasts 1 hour or occurs two times in a 24-hour period



This information is prepared specifically for patients participating in clinical research at the Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center at the National Institutes of Health and is not necessarily applicable to individuals who are patients elsewhere. If you have questions about the information presented here, talk to a member of your healthcare team.

Living with Cancer Chemotherapy Series
January, 1983; draft September, 1998
National Institutes of Health, CC
Nursing Department

Questions about the Clinical Center? OCCC@cc.nih.gov